



DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL, STATE FIRE ACADEMY AND THE STATE HAZ-MAT TEAM

FIRE SAFETY NEWS



2014 Arson Awareness Week Statistics

May 2014

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According to the United States Fire Administration's Nation Fire Incident Report System (NFIRS), from 2008 - 2010 approximately 14 percent of all intentionally set fires are vehicle fires with 10 percent of all vehicle fires being the result of intentionally set fires. From 2004 to 2006, an estimated 27,900 intentionally set vehicle fires occurred each year in the United States. Intentionally set fires account for 10 percent of all vehicle fires. These intentionally set fires resulted in an average of approximately 40 deaths, 75 injuries, and \$169 million in property loss each year.

USFA – NFIRS

BOARD DEADLINE REMINDER

If you have a board agenda item, it needs to be received at the Central Office no later than 2 weeks prior to the board meeting.

(For all boards – Access, Electrical, Elevator & Plumbing)

Meetings:

May:

Plumbing: 5/13/2014 Access: 5/19/2014

June:

Electrical: 6/3/2014 Elevator: 6/10/2014 Access: 6/30/2014



According to the National Fire Protection Association, during 2005-2008 there was an average of 23,400 intentionally set vehicle fires accounting for 8% of intentionally set fires and resulting in an average of 35 civilian deaths, 70 civilian injuries and \$192 million in direct property damage. Sixty-seven percent of intentionally set vehicle fires occur under the cloak of darkness (9:00 pm - 6:00 am).

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, over the last ten years (2003 – 2012), there's been an average of 14,737 vehicle arsons reported accounting for 26.5% of total arson annually. The FBI's UCR Program defines arson as any willful or malicious burning or attempting to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.



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Nicole York, DFS-Barre Regional Assistant, Honored



Nicole York, Barre Regional Assistant, has been honored and recognized as an Outstanding State Employee in honor of Public Service Recognition Week! She has been selected to join Governor Peter Shumlin, Secretary of State Jeb Spaulding and Commissioner of Human Resources Kate Duffy at an awards ceremony and luncheon in early May.

Nicole started her service with the State of Vermont nine years ago, and for the past five years has provided her dedicated service to the Division of Fire Safety. In the last year, the Division saw a period of time where one position became vacant due to a transfer and another vacant position was created by an instance of extended leave. Nicole was asked to take on additional duties to cover for the vacancies and worked diligently to stay ahead of things. There have been many instances that Nicole has displayed self-motivation, knowing that the work needed to be completed. Also during this time Nicole accepted a new position as the Barre Regional Assistant, trained her replacement as the Licensing Specialist and continues to train a temporary employee hired to assist and cover for the position effected by the extended leave. She continues to show true commitment to her work, and can easily be seen as a role model for any State employee.

Please join us in recognizing and thanking Nicole for stepping forward and playing such a big role for the Division of Fire Safety.

Thank you Nicole for a job well done!



NFIRS is currently OFF LINE and is unavailable

To All NFIRS On-line System Users,

The NFIRS On-line applications will be unavailable for approximately 7 business days, from 6:00 a.m. (EDT)

Tuesday April 29, 2014 through Wednesday May 7, 2014.

The USFA is moving the NFIRS system to a new data center production environment. It is hoped that the move will improve system performance and reliability. Plans are in place for the NFIRS database backup and restore processes, component configuration and post-move tests. During this downtime, all NFIRS on-line services and the NFIRS website will not be available.

All departments should hold on to any reports and enter them after the move is complete.

If you have any questions, contact the VFIRS helpdesk at dps.vfirs@state.vt.us or call 800-640-2106 M-F 8-4

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Arson Fire, St. Johnsbury

There was an arson fire set on a Friday night on April 4, 2014 at the Republican Block on Eastern Avenue in St. Johnsbury. The police know who set it and are dealing with this individual. As a result of having a sprinkler system, this fire was contained and quickly extinguished by the STJ Fire Department. The building fire alarm activated per code when the sprinkler system went off. The fire department was notified and quickly responded. There was a slight delay because the dialer was not working properly due to a phone company squabble taking place at the time, according to one of the tenants. This has since been rectified. Everybody evacuated, nobody was hurt and the damage to the building was minimal.

This could have been a real disaster if no sprinkler system had been installed. There is a bar on the lowest level, a barber shop on the next level above and apartments on the next two levels above that. The first set fire occurred in one of the exit stairway enclosures on the next to highest level. This is the one that fused the sprinkler head that contained the fire. The second fire was set in the other exit enclosure at that same level, but went out before any sprinklers activated. This could have easily gotten out of control and jeopardized all of the occupants of the building had there been no sprinkler and fire alarm protection in the building.

The sprinkler and fire alarm systems were installed back in 2003 as a result of this office and the STJ Fire Department convincing the owner to do so. It certainly did the job it was designed to do and not one tenant, visitor or firefighter was injured. The building was minimally damaged and was re-occupied that same night. Without these systems being in place, I feel there was a tremendous potential for bodily harm, death and/or major building destruction. I consider this a terrific save as a direct result of what we do here at the Division of Fire Safety and because of the involvement we have with the STJ Fire Department, and its professionalism. Without this office working so closely with the STJ Fire Department, this sprinkler system and fire alarm system may have not been installed or operational. I definitely put this in the "WIN" column for us. I feel it is a clear example of what we try to do here every day we come to work.

Brad Charron, CFPE-CFI
Assistant State Fire Marshal

Administrative Penalities Paid

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ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY PAYMENTS RECEIVED FROM January 1, 2014- March 31, 2014

MAY 2014

April, 2014

SITE NAME	CITY	PAYMENT AMOUNT	VIOLATOR NAME
P&S FURNITURE	BARRE	\$100.00	47 NO. MAIN LLC
HOLLOW INN	BARRE	\$100.00	HOLLOW INN & MOTEL
LONG TRAIL BREWING	BRIDGEWATER	\$500.00	IRVING ENERGY
WOODBINE BY THE LAKE	COLCHESTER	\$50.00	MARY LOU RECOR
CABOT CREAMERY	CABOT	\$200.00	CABOT CREAMERY
LODGE AT OTTER CREEK	MIDDLEBURY	\$200.00	OMEGA ELECTRIC
FORMER RESEARCH	COLCHESTER	\$500.00	ACABAY INC.
STRATTON CILLAGE SQUARE	STRATTON	\$500.00	TOM ROSE
LOFT TAVERN	LUDLOW	\$500.00	TOM KOCK
SAXTON RIVER VILLAGE	SAXTONS RIVER	\$100.00	LARSON AVRIL
TOWN HOMES AT OAKRIDGE	ESSEX	\$100.00	MIDDLESEX ELECTRIC
83 MAIN STREET	WELLS RIVER	\$50.00	ROBERT WELSH
ONION RIVER CROSSROADS	MONTPELIER	\$50.00	ONION RIVER
HIGH RIDGE PLAZA	MANCHESTER	\$250.00	MATT WHITMAN
SAYBROOK CONDOS	ESSEX	\$100.00	E & S ELECTRIC

From: Robert A. Patterson,

Deputy Director

To: Plan reviewers, Inspectors

Re: NFPA 7.2.2.3.2.5

Date: April 16, 2014

MEMORANDUM

This memorandum pertains to stair landing requirements for one and two-family dwellings including stairs within a condominium unit. The 2006 Life Safety Code exempted the requirement for a top stair landing. One and two-family dwelling was deleted from the 2009 code and only existing buildings with less than 50 occupants are currently exempt. Not having adopted the 2009 we were not aware of the change until recently.

Providing a landing at the top of stairs requires a substantial design change by adding about 10 square feet to the top of basement stairway, and reduces the living space by the same amount. In speaking with NFPA, the reason for the change was to have all landings constructed the same, with no evidence of increased safety, other than all new buildings would be the same in the future, which would making landings predictable.

Based on previous history, the top of basement stairs in new construction will be permitted without a landing and will be reviewed on the next code cycle.

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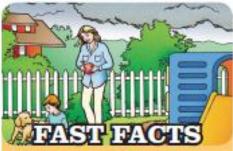
Outdoor Safety

- If you can hear thunder, you are within striking distance of lightning. Look for shelter inside a home, large building, or a hard-topped vehicle right away. Do not go under tall trees for shelter. There is no place outside that is safe during a thunderstorm. Wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder before leaving your shelter.
- Stay away from windows and doors.
- If you are in or on open water, go to land and seek shelter immediately.
- If you feel your hair stand on end, that means lightning is about to strike, squat low to the ground on the balls of your feet. Place your hands over your ears and your head between your knees. Make yourself the smallest target possible and minimize your contact with the ground. Do not lie flat on the ground. This is a last resort when a building or hard-topped vehicle is not available.
- If a person is struck by lightning, call 9-1-1 and get medical care immediately. Lightning strike victims carry no electrical charge; attend to them immediately. Check their breathing, heartbeat, and pulse. CPR may be needed.

Your Source for SAFETY Information FPA NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

Indoor Safety

Unplug appliances and other electrical items, like computers, and turn off air conditioners. If you are unable to unplug them, turn them off. Stay off corded phones, computers, and other electronic equipment that put you in direct contact with electricity or plumbing. Avoid washing your hands, bathing, doing laundry, or washing dishes.



- Outside and other fires accounted for roughly threequarters of the lightning fires reported to local fire departments.
- Lightning often strikes outside of heavy rain and may occur as far as 10 miles from any rainfall.

www.nfpa.org/education

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ICC Building Safety Association of Vermont

Working to improve public health and safety throughout Vermont — An ICC Professional Chapter since March 2009

A brief history of the ICC Building Safety Association of Vermont

The *ICC Building Safety Association of Vermont* (ICC BSA-VT) was formed in 2009 by a group of people concerned with promoting safer buildings for occupants and first responders. This eclectic group consisted of individuals who worked in many different fields. They were architects, fire chiefs, fire marshals, contractors, engineers, efficiency experts, building inspectors and concerned citizens. Prior to the formation of the ICC BSA-VT the state of Vermont was the only state in the country that did not have an *International Code Council* Chapter.

The *International Code Council* (ICC) is a nationwide organization that was formed by merging most of the existing organizations that published model building codes. The ICC now publishes codes that states and municipalities can and have adopted. These codes include building, plumbing, and energy efficiency codes to name a few.

The ICC BSA-VT is unique among all the other ICC state chapters in that it has members from all sectors of the enforcement and construction industries. In other states the groups consist of either enforcement or construction members but not both. I like to think that in Vermont we Vermonters can work together with others who may have different backgrounds and opinions or maybe it just is we are a small state. I prefer to think it is the former and not the later.

The ICC BSA-VT mission statement is; "To advance the professionalism of and provide assistance to code officials, design professionals, builders, manufacturers and others involved in the construction process to help improve public health and safety throughout the State of Vermont." This is done by providing training classes and information for all involved in the construction of buildings in Vermont. The ICC BSA-VT also provides information on safe building practices to other groups that may be promoting legislation.

Recently a class was held on the ICC *International Residential Code* (IRC) that was attended by over 40 students. The students in the class included sales personal from several lumber and building materials suppliers along with contactors, design professionals and inspectors. These students will be able to provide builders and home owners with information and products for safer homes. One example is learning what size an egress window needs to be so firefighters can more easily rescue occupants.

One often overlooked benefit of being an ICC BSA-VT chapter member is the contacts you will make with other members who work in other occupations. These contacts can many times help you in your professional development in your chosen field of work.

If you would like more information on the ICC BSA-VT it is available on our web site http://www.buildsafevt.org/. Contact me, Glenn Moore incoming Chapter President at glenn.moore@state.vt.us if you would like information on joining the chapter.

Glenn Moore Assistant State Fire Marshal Incoming ICC BSA-VT President

MEMORANDUM

From: Bob Patterson, Deputy Director

To: Inspectors, Architects, Engineers & Contractors

Date: April 18, 2014

RE: Enclosed Parking Structures

This memorandum clarifies the Division's position of providing adequate ventilation in parking structures qualifying as "enclosed". Traditionally enclosed parking structures have required constant mechanical ventilation during hours of normal operation (NFPA 88A 6.3.1). With the consideration of applying of newer technology using carbon monoxide detector/sensor systems; it has been proven to be an effective way to protect the structure from the harmful effects of carbon monoxide and substantially reduces energy cost. NFPA 88A or the following criteria shall be used in the design, installation and maintenance of an enclosed parking garage.

- -CO (Carbon Monoxide) shall be monitored with at least one detector/sensor per 7,500 square feet (or as required by the manufacturer of the device, whichever is less), but not less than 2 sensors in any garage floor area, located approximately 5' above floor. Detectors shall be installed and spaced in accordance with the manufacturer's published instructions.
- -All "enclosed" parking garages shall be provided with a mechanical exhaust system to maintain a continuous rate of ventilation of .05 cfm per square foot of area of the garage at all times. This can be achieved as an integral component of the installed system or as a separate, monitored stand-alone system.
- -When the CO level reaches 25 ppm a signal shall be sent from the controller to energize the Parking Garage exhaust fan(s) and VFD (variable frequency drive) (where applicable) at minimum fan speed. If the CO levels are not reduced after 60 seconds the exhaust fan shall ramp its speed up (where a VFD is present). The fan shall achieve its full speed if CO levels are not reduced within 5 minutes. If a CO level of 50 ppm is reached, the exhaust fan(s) VFD (where applicable) will go to full speed. If a CO level of 75 ppm is reached, an alarm shall be annunciated (both audibly and visually) adjacent to the Mechanical Room in the Parking Garage.
 - -Mechanical ventilation rate shall be capable of producing an airflow rate of 0.75 cfm per square foot of floor area.
 - -The coldest temperature of the parking garage shall be monitored and shall automatically activate the ventilation system when the interior of the parking garage temperature is 5 deg. F above the lowest listed operating range of the installed CO detectors.
 - -As a failsafe, the failure of any one component shall place the entire system into maximum designed operational mode.
 - -Where a garage is classified as enclosed (0-40% open), permanent fresh supply air openings shall be sufficient to ventilate the garage area, in addition to the garage door opening. Permanent openings shall provide sufficient free area to have a maximum intake face velocity of not more than 300 FPM. Permanent openings may include louvers equipped with fail open motorized dampers.
 - -Inspection, testing and calibration of the CO sensors (NFPA 720 Chapter 8) and ventilation system shall be accomplished and documented annually by a TQP (Technically Qualified Person). The building owner shall be required to maintain an inspection log for any required system.
 - -Standard for installation of carbon monoxide Detection and Warning equipment shall be tested and certified to standard UL2075 or Nationally Recognized Testing Agency.
 - -In all enclosed parking garages, to prevent the migration of CO to adjoining occupiable spaces, a minimum .05 cfm of air flow/ventilation must be maintained at all times. The design must include appropriate measures to control the migration of contaminates from the garage to adjacent occupiable spaces including: weatherstripping/gasketing of the door(s) to the occupiable space; or providing a vestibule between the garage and the occupiable space; or providing sufficient ventilation to prevent migration of contaminates from the garage to the occupiable space. Stairway or habitable areas connected to the parking garage shall be protected with CO detectors.
 - -When a building has a fire alarm system, the CO detection system shall be connected and supervised, when available, to the building fire alarm system. Where no fire alarm system is present a local visual and audible alarm(s) shall be present in the garage.

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NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY YOUTH FIRESETTING

PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAM



In light of our Youth Fire Setting Couse in Vermont being canceled here is information on a upcoming 6 -day Youth Firesetting Prevention & Intervention Course that is being held in June at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy in Stow, MA.

The instructors of this course and the Mass fire academy have gracelessly opened it up to fire fighters from Vermont. Below is the link for interested people.

http://mfa.chs.state.ma.us/mfa courses/courseDetails.asp?cid=FI6&curr=1

Please do not select the "Register" button within the above link, as it will take them to the internal Massachusetts Firefighting Academy online registration system, and not register them on the correct NFA course application. The NFA application, which may be completed and faxed to our Massachusetts Firefighting Academy registrations line at 978-567-3229, and should not be returned to the National Fire Academy.

Here is a link to information on how applicants may obtain a Student Identification Number from FE-MA / NFA (NFA admissions will no longer accept applications with a Social Security number listed):

http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/about/attend/ftin.shtm

The 6-day NFA Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention course will be held at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, Department of Fire Services, 1 State Road, Stow, MA 01775 on:

Monday June 2nd, 2014 - 8:30 a.m. - 5pm - in the Link #105 (off the café)
Wed. June 4th - 8:30 a.m. - 5pm - Room #127
Fri. June 6th - 8:30 a.m. - 5pm - Room #127
Mon. June 9th - 8:30 a.m. - 5pm - Room #127
Tues. June 10th - 8:30 a.m. - 5pm - Room #127
Wed. June 11th - 8:30 a.m. - 5pm - Room #127

The Mass Fire Academy has on-site, full service cafeteria located on campus. A listing of suggested lodging facilities, close by, is also available upon request.

Finally, there is a pre-course assignment that must be completed prior to arriving on Day 1 of the course (June 2nd). This is a priority selection course, and all applicants will be notified of their acceptance, however, I have scheduled our largest classrooms for this course offering, so I don't anticipant anyone being denied. All students will eventually receive National Fire Academy course completion certificates sent directly from NFA upon successful completion of the course.

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Central Office Welcomes Bridgette Hutchinson

We would like to welcome Bridgette
Hutchinson, working as the new Administrative Assistant in the Central Office of
The Division of Fire Safety in Berlin.
Bridgette previously worked in the Central
office from 2002 to 2008 as the Licensing
Secretary. After taking some time off to
raise her family, she is looking forward to
working for the State again. She has
enjoyed seeing many familiar faces so far,
and is looking forward to meeting many
new people. Please join us in welcoming
Bridgette!





May is National Electrical Safety Month!

Preventing Electrical Fires at Home

Fire officials offer the following tips to assist you in having a safe spring:

- Have a licensed electrician examine your electrical system every ten years.
 All electrical work should be done by a licensed electrician who has first obtained a permit when required. The permit process helps protect homeowners that the work is done correctly.
- Inspect all extension cords. Discard any that are cracked or frayed and replace with new ones having a certification label from an independent testing laboratory. Never nail a cord or wire to the wall.
- Cords should be used according to their ratings (indoor or outdoor use) and according to the power needs of the appliance that is being plugged in.
- When unplugging any cord, do so by grasping the plug end. Do not pull on the cord as this over time can cause the cord to fail.
- Make sure you have ground fault breakers installed in your bathroom and kitchen.
- Keep hot irons and curling irons out of reach of small children.
- When leaving laptop computers, iPads, and cell phones charging, have them
 on a solid surface such as a desk or countertop. Leaving them on a bed,
 couch or chair can cause them to overheat and catch the material on fire.

VT HAZMAT TEAM NOTES



Chris Herrick, Chief

What do I do with the TIER II Reports?

So, all Fire Chiefs in the state of Vermont should have received copies of the TIER II reports from the entities housing hazardous materials in their jurisdictions. I have received many phone calls from local chiefs asking one of two questions: what should I do with this information, and how do I know if all those who should report have reported?

The TIER II information is sent to the fire department in order to insure they know what risks are stored in their towns. This is designed to assist in insuring the department leadership can prepare for responses to the facilities both from a pre-plan perspective as well as equipment purchasing and training.

Most jurisdictions will get reports indicating the presence of gasoline, propane, diesel and heating oil. They may, however be some chemicals which provide particular hazards i.e mercury or hydrofluoric acid. Managing this information can be challenging if all the reports are put in a three ring binder and tossed into E-1. There is a better way.

I suggest that for each chemical the RIDS section in CAMEO is printed off one time and these are organized in a binder in alphabetical order. So while there may be 10 locations reporting gasoline you will have only one copy in this resource. In addition, each location reporting is listed with a simple list of all the chemicals stored there.

You get called to XYZ business for a report of a chemical release with a strong odor. You consult the alphabetical list of the businesses and find XYZ

XYZ

Ammonia

Lead Mercury

Based on the report from dispatch you go to the Ammonia page and are able to locate the information re that particular chemical.

If you notice that there are a large number of businesses storing a substance that you have little knowledge about it should trigger some training and potential equipment purchases. Likewise, you can also use the facility information sent to you in the report to assist you in designing a pre-plan for your response.

If you have access to a laptop in the Engine you can also request all TIER II data from me to be sent on a disk. You can search the facility in CAMEO after downloading the TIER II info and it will give you all the reported information about the chemical and the facility.

Any business that stores more than 100lbs of any hazardous material except for gasoline, diesel, heating oil and propane which have a threshold of 10,000lbs must report. There are some exceptions for those materials stored in consumer sized packaging and for agriculture. If you have questions regarding a particular business please call me for clarification.

Christopher Herrick, M.Ed. CFO

Chief VHMRT

Christopher.Herrick@state.vt.us

State of Vermont Dept of Public Safety

CALENDAR OF



Division of Fire Safety

www.firesafety.vermont.gov



	May 2014						
	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
out.	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
,	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Date	Event	Location
4-10	Arson Awareness Week	All
11	Mother's Day	All
26	Memorial Day	All

ARSON AWARENESS WEEK May 4th-10th, 2014

~ EVENTS ~ Memorial Day- May 26th, 2014- STATE HOLIDAY

All gave some... Some gave all Remember them this Memorial Day

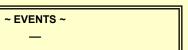


BOARD MEETING DATES

Plumbing Board Meeting: May 13, 2014, 10AM Access Board Meeting: May 19, 2014, 1:30PM

June 2014						
SUN	МО	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Date	Event	Location	
15	Father's Day	All	
21	Summer Begins	All	
22-28	Lighting Safety Awareness Week	All	





BOARD MEETING DATES

Electrical Board Meeting: June 6, 2014, 9AM Elevator Board Meeting: June 10, 2014, 9AM Access Board Meeting: June 30, 2014, 1:30PM





State of Vermont Division of Fire Safety
1311 US Route 302—Berlin Suite 600
Barre, VT 05641-2351
FIRESAFETY.VERMONT.GOV

To be added to the monthly newsletter email mailing list contact Kelsey at Kelsey.Remick@state.vt.us

REMEMBER Smoke Detectors, Fire Sprinklers and Carbon Monoxide Detectors Save Lives

Vermont Department of Public Safety

Division of Fire Safety

Central Office

1311 US Route 302— Suite 600 Barre, VT 05641-2351 Phone (802) 479-7561 Fax (802) 479-7562 Toll Free (800) 640-2106 HAZMAT Response Team Phone (802) 479-7586 Fax (802) 479-7562 Toll Free (800) 641-5005

Vermont Fire Academy

93 Davison Drive Pittsford, VT 05763 Phone (802) 483-2755 Fax (802) 483-2464 Toll Free (800) 615-3473

Regional Offices:

Barre

1311 US Route 302— Suite 500 Barre, VT 05641-7301 Phone (802) 479-4434 Fax (802) 479-4446 Toll Free 1-888-870-7888

Springfield

100 Mineral Street, Suite 307 Springfield VT 05156-3168 Phone (802) 885-8883 Fax (802) 885-8885 Toll Free 1-866-404-8883

Rutland

56 Howe Street, Building A-Suite 200 Rutland, VT 05701 Phone (802) 786-5867 Fax (802) 786-5872 Toll Free (888) 370-4834

Williston

372 Hurricane Lane, Suite 102 Williston, VT 05495-7151 Phone (802) 879-2300 Fax (802) 879-2312 Toll Free (800) 366-8325

DIVISION OF STATE POLICE—FIRE INVESTIGATION